SHRI SURESH KALMADI: It went down.

SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Suresh Kalmadiji is also endorsing my views that it went down. For this particular scheme, where we are spotting the talents all over the country, only Rs. 4.5 crores are reserved for talent scouting activities. Sir, I would request both these Ministers, through you, that they must try to augment our budget for sports in general, not necessarily for this particular scheme.

Sir, I would like to cite the example of Miss Charushila Naigaonkar. She is a marathon runner. She belongs to Nagpur. She runs bare-footed. She doesn't have shoes to take part in the marathon event. What about these types of sportsmen and sportswomen who cannot even afford shoes? Would you like to come up with a scheme to provide basic facilities to the sports people who have reached national and international levels? They do not have proper facilities to train' themselves. Are you going to come up with a scheme, particularly for women, where you will provide these facilities to them?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, first of all.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Neglect of Tribal Welfare in Andhra Pradesh

*82. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ITDA in West Godavari has enumerated the number of tribals in Tallavaram Village in Polavaram Mandal (Andhra Pradesh) who have been totally ignored;

(b) if so, how many such tribals are there in Tallavaram who have never received any assistance for the last 10 years from ITDA;

(c) if so, what action is proposed to enquire into this neglect; and

(d) the steps taken to assist such tribals in Tallavaram who have been totally ingored?

THE. MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a). The Mandal Prajaparishad Development Officer, Pollavaram, has taken up a survey of families with a view to provide suitable assistance under poverty alleviation programme.

(b) to (d) Tallavaram, a hamlet of Kondrukota village, has 122 Scheduled Tribe families out of whom 116 were assisted to construct houses in 1986. 58 S.T. families have been assisted for horticultural development and 3 S.T. families for carpentry units.

Command Area Development Programme

*85. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the "Command Area Development Programme" widely acclaimed as an important and indispensable device for bringing the irrigation potential created under optimum utilisation with better water management techniques has been relegated to secondary importance due to the failure to achieve physical target;

(b) if so, whether the very purpose of enhancing agricultural productivity and production through optimum and scientific use of scarcely available water resources has been defeated; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon and the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):

(a). No, Sir. The Command Area Development Programme has not been relegated and secondary importance.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to further improve the performance of the Command Area Development Programme, an Advisory Committee has been constituted under the Chiarmanship of the Union Minister (Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs) to advise on measures to increase effectiveness of the programme. Efforts are being made to strengthen, the monitoring set up. This year, monitoring of the programme would be carried out through field formations of the Central Water Commission and private agencies. Steps for increased fanners' participation have also been taken.

corruption in Lalit Kala Akademy

*87. SHRI MOHAMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that national newspapers of all languages are full of stories concerning corruption, embezzlement of public fund, nepotism and allegations of selling of rare palm leaf paintings of Orissa by the officials of Lalit Kala Akademy;

(b) whether the Department of Culture, Government of India instituted any inquiry on the happenings in the Lalit Kala Akademy; and

(c) why the Department of Culture has failed in excercising any control over the misdeeds of the officials of the Lalit Kala Akademy?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary enquiries were made with Lalit Kala Akademi regarding these complaints and their comments obtained.

(c) The Lalit Kala Akademi is an autonomous organisation. Its Chairman is appointed by the President of India and the Chief Executive namely, the Secretary by the Executive Board of the Akademi. Government do not have the power to issue directives or amend its constitution. Government do not have any say in its day-to-day activities and do not exercise control over its officials.

Import of Iron ore by private sector companies

*88. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed some private sector companies in steel industry to import large quantities of iron ore this year;

(b) if so, which are these companies and the quantity of iron ore proposed to be imported by each of them; and

(c) what are the reasons which necessitated the import?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Government permission for import of iron ore is not required under the current Export-Import Policy (1992—97) and such import is freely allowed.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Modernisation programme to increase the production of pig iron, sponge iron and steel

*89. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to increase the production of pig iron, sponge iron and steel through modernisation programme;

(b) if so, the details of the production